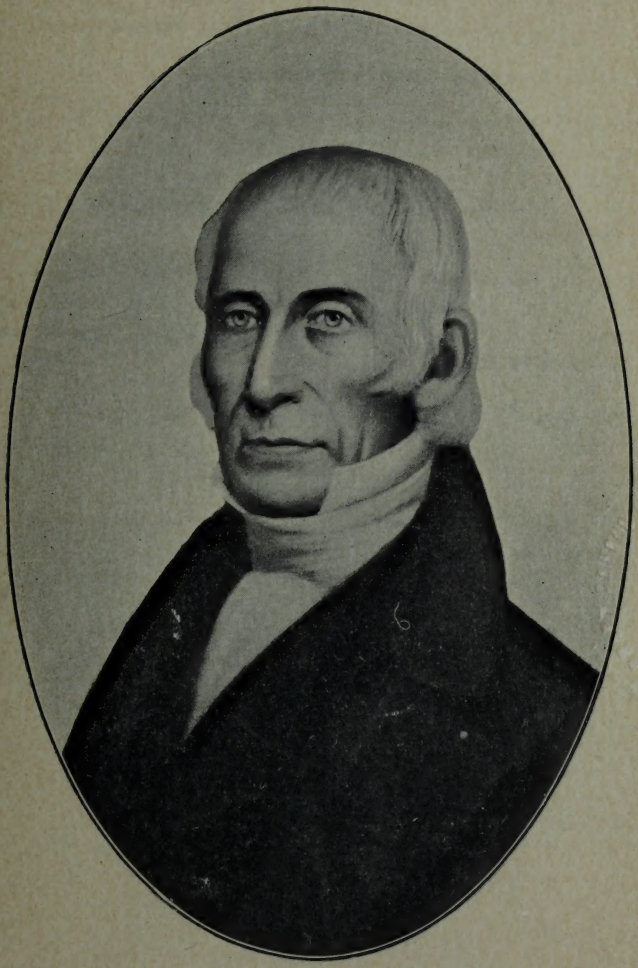
Centenary

of the raising of the Niagara Light Dragoons

Niagara, Ont., 28th June, 1912



THOMAS MERRITT,
Major Commandant Niagara Light Dragoons.
(Gazetted Major of Cavalry in the Militia, Dated York, 24th April, 1812.
Previously Cornet in the Queen's Rangers 1776-1803.)

LP
F5012
1912
C395

Roll of the Niagara Light Dragoons—"on service from 1st May to 24th December, 1812."

Engagements—Fort Erie, 9th October, 1812. Queenston, 13th October, 1812.

Major Commandant, Thomas Merritt, June 1812

First Troop— Capt. Alexander Hamilton
Lieutenant William Hamilton Merritt
Cornet John Pell, Major (Killed at Fort Erie 11th. Oct., 1812).
Quartermaster Charles Ingersoll (Promoted Cornet 24th Oct. 1812).
Duncan Clow, (promoted Quartermaster from Sergeant 24th Oct. 1812).

A proposed second troop was not raised.

Other names from a document in the archives in Ottawa designated "Nominal Return of Major Merritt's Troop of Niagara Light Dragoons on service from the 1st May to the 24th December, 1812, dated York, 19th Jan., 1820, signed W. Coffin, Adjt.-Gen., Militia Upper Canada".

Sergt. Richard Woodruff
Sergt. George Shaw
Corp'l David Secord
Farrier David Young
Saddler Timothy Street
Trumpeter Andrew Coace
Trumpeter Joshua Corbice

Privates (50)

Adams, William
Allen, Seneca
Bender, John
Berger, David
Campbell, Peter
Caswell, Jerotham
Caswell, Nethaniel
Caswell, Daniel
Cline, Henry
Cutler, Abram
Cutler, Jacob
Dagget, Eliazar
Davis, James
Fields, Daniel
Fuller, Asa
Green, William Henry
Graham, David
Hodge, Kinsan Samuel
Henry, James
Hawn, William
Hoverland, John
Horstider, Abraham
Killings, Richard
Lawrence, John
Mann, John
McKenney, Amos
Manacle, William
Nichols, Abraham
Nichols, Charles
Pew, James
Putman, David
Pawling, Henry
Rodgers, Alexander
Rykert, John
Rose, Alexander
Runchy, Robert
Summers, William
Swayze, Samuel
Slater, Major
Lane, Thomas
Steinhoof, Jacob
Smith, John R.
Towsley, Alanson
Wiers, Charles
Willson, Joseph
Willson, Benjamin
Willson, William
Willson, Uriah
Wintermoot, William
Wynn, William (promoted Corp'l. 12th October, 1812)
Millard, Samuel

Queen's University
Library

KINGSTON, ONTARIO

From Journal of Hon. Wm. Hamilton Merritt, son of Major Thomas Merritt.

"Information that war had been declared by the U.S. was received by the Officer commanding the British forces on the Niagara frontier on the 27th of June and the movement of troops to his support began without delay.

"In the course of the morning", writes Mr. Merritt, "I received an order from my father to assemble the men in my vicinity and march down to Fort George as soon as possible. On receiving the news the men had all assembled by the next morning. Accordingly we moved off and joined the main body at the Court House in Niagara at 2 p.m., the 28th inst. ; kept patrols up and down the river, etc. Capt. Hamilton and myself quartered in my father's house in Niagara."

119154

MENU

MAYONAIZE OF SEA SALMON

CUCUMBERS

CHICKEN AND TONGUE

SALADES — POTATOES AND TOMATOES

FRUIT SALADE

STRAWBERRIES AND ICE CREAM

WAFERS AND BUCHEES

COFFEE

TOASTS

THE KING

THE EMPIRE

THE CANADIAN MILITIA

THE NIAGARA LIGHT DRAGOONS

THE OLD BURG

GOD SAVE THE KING

CENTENARY CELEBRATION

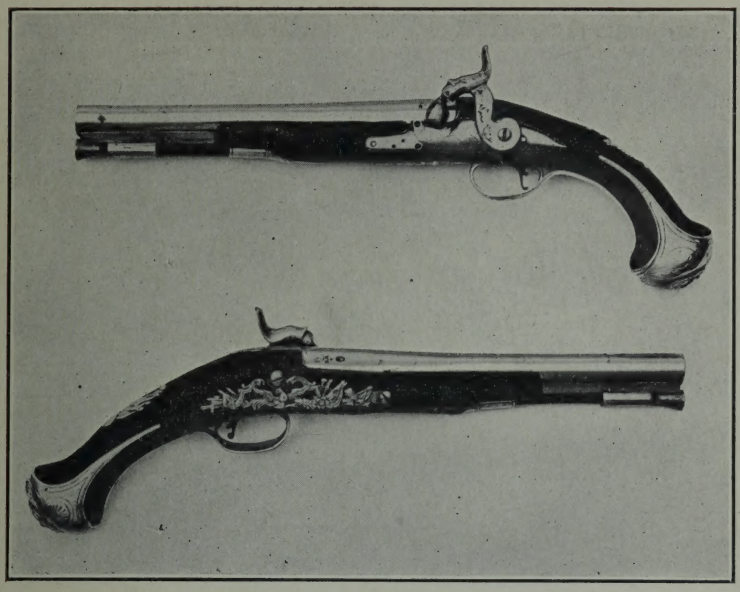
Niagara Light Dragoons
28th June, 1912.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

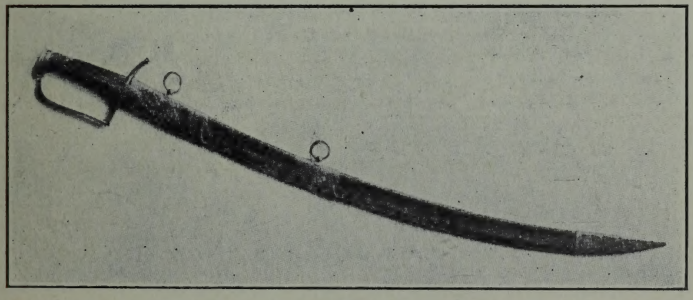
Jas. W. Randall, Mayor, Chairman
Miss Janet Carnochan, President Niagara Historical Society, Secretary
Rev. J. C. Garrett
Dr. H. L. Anderson
Jos. Aikens, Reeve
E. Byron Hestoler

GENERAL COMMITTEE

Honorary President—Lt.-Col. W. Hamilton Merritt, Commandant 1st Cavalry Brigade. President Canadian Cavalry Association.
J. H. Ingersoll
W. D. Woodruff
Harrison Pew
Jessie Paulin
Philip S. Secord
Dr. W. H. Merritt, Mayor of St. Catharines
Lt.-Col. J. Z. Frazer
Rev. Capt. Perry
Cyrus Hamilton
Lt.-Col. V. Chadwick, 9th Mississauga Horse.
Lt.-Col. F A. Fleming, Governor-General's Body Guard.
Lt.-Col. Muir, 25th Brant Dragoons.
Lt. David Secord, 25th Brant Dragoons.



Pair of pistols used by Major Thos. Merritt in Wars 1776-83 and 1812-14. Converted from flint-locks in 1837 by Col. Elias Adams, who married a daughter of Major Merritt. Now in the Canadian Military Institute among the "Merritt Loan Collection."



After the battle of Queenston Heights 73 United States Officers surrendered their swords, Lossing states they were collected by Major Merritt on his saddle-bow. This one is among the "Merritt Loan Collection" in the Canadian Military Institute in Toronto.

"Cap'n Merritt and Herry's Officers"
From a book of illustrated narratives of the revolutionary war published in New York, Jan, 4, 1856; Wherein it is described by Col. Herry, N.S. Army, how "one British Officer beat off three Americans.")